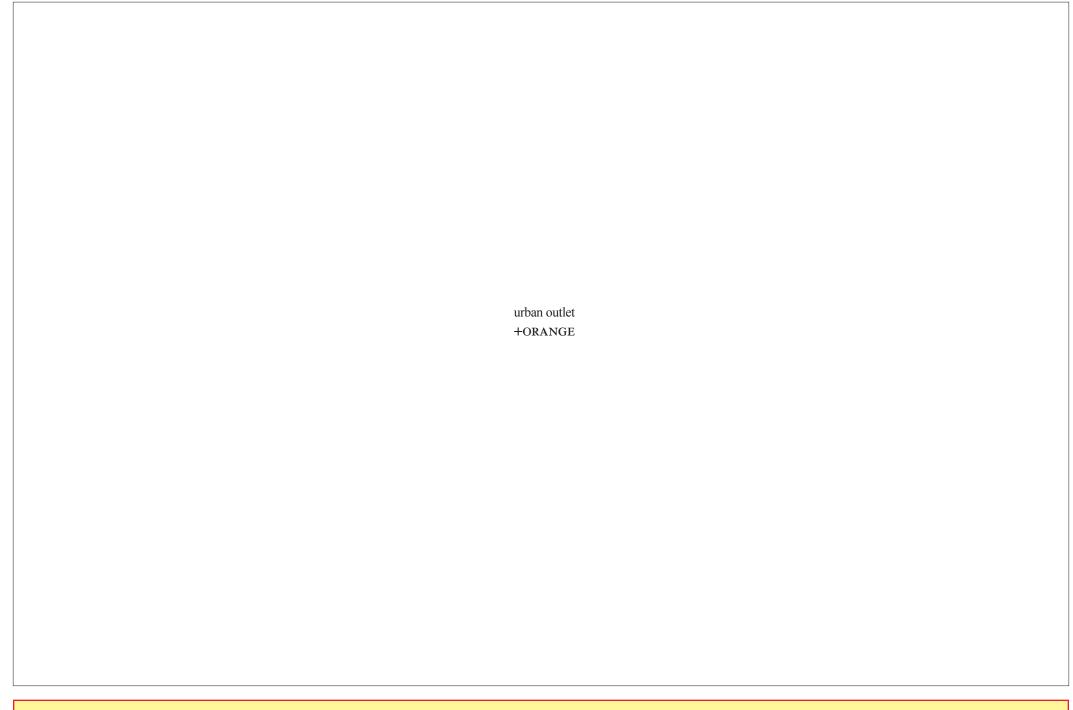
Saipan Tribune CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Around the CNMI





The Saipan Tribune accepts contributed pictures of birthdays, weddings, baptisms, and other community and family events for free publication. Material submitted should be original and not copyrighted, in digital or print format. Must include a caption containing complete details (a description of the event, identities of the persons in the picture, the date, and the place), the name of the contributor, and a contact number. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to edit the caption, the date of publication and the size of the picture. Contributors can e-mail their submissions to editor.tribune@gtepacifica.net. To check if contributions are received, call 235-6397, 235-2440, or 235-8747.

Providing temporary solace at typhoon shelters

By CASSIE DLG FEJERAN SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The usual roar of spectators and the yells of athletes at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium have been replaced by the subdued chatter of adults and the excited babble of children, as evacuees temporarily took over the place while awaiting government assistance in rebuilding their destroyed homes.

The same goes for the Marianas High School, where some if worse comes to worst, then it is safe for the people to go

classrooms have been hastily converted to homes to house the evacuees. In total, both venues are now playing host to over 400 evacuees rendered homeless by Supertyphoon Chaba.

According to Joe Mettao, shelter manager at the Ada gym, the gym opened on Wednesday, taking in 189 evacuees from the villages of Oleai, Chalan Kanoa, Koblerville, and one from Kagman.

"This is all we can have, but

we will bring in more people," Mettao added.

The American Red Cross issued brooms, mops, and cots for those with disabilities. Reyes Catering, on the other hand, provided three meals a day for the evacuees.

"We cancelled all games until everyone moves out. We just concentrate on the people now. We will not deal with any sports even if it's for one month or two months, until home," said Mettao.

Despite the confined area at the gym, the children were able to run around and enjoy their time together. "If it is not raining we will have games provided for the kids outside," said Mettao.

Becky Ruben, 11-year old resident from Chalan Kanoa, had recently relocated from William S. Reyes Elementary School with her family. "My house is not destroyed, but it's flooded and the water is mixed

safe," she said. "It's fun here, we get to play around. The doctor gave us gifts, and some from American Red Cross."

Thirteen-year-old Marfiana Moses said some of the donations are from the Christian church. "I got candy, cookies and chips," he added.

"I got a coloring book. They are giving us things to play with," said 8-year old Dermang Ngiralmuut.

At the Marianas High School,

with the sewer[age]. It is still not administrative specialist Rita C. Mallari said the school is accommodating some 350 evacuees in the 30 rooms available.

> According to Mallari, the Emergency Management Office provided cleaning services for the restrooms and showers in the gym. "EMO hired people to clean the restrooms and the showers at least twice a day," she said.

> "The people are also getting three meals a day. We serve at the front of the office. Today they had tuna sandwich for lunch with pineapples," she said.

> The Marianas High School and the Ada gym are the only shelters with showers available. Both will be accommodating the evacuees until further notice from the EMO.

> > cars

manager Mark Murai bids Saipan 'sayonara

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands yesterday awarded the permanent emeritus merit to Aqua Resort Club's general manager in appreciation of his over 15 years of service to the CNMI's hotel industry.

ARC general manager Mark Murai will be leaving the island on Monday, to take on a more challenging job as vice president of the Tokyo-based Ken Aqua Hotel and Resort.

The emeritus award grants Murai lifetime membership to HANMI.

Murai has been an active member of HANMI since 1989, when Aqua Resort opened on the island. He has served as the group's president for two years and vice president for four years. He has also acted as integral adviser to the association that describes itself as "the largest investment group in the CNMI."

The hotel executive practi-

cally built and saw Aqua Resort develop into one of the biggest hotel on the island. He came to the island during ARC's planning stage and staved for the construction and eventual opening in 1989.

"I never imagined I'd stay on Saipan for more than three years," he said.

Murai noted that the past 15 vears have been very challenging. He recalled the series of events that led to the ups and downs of the tourism industry in the CNMI, including the economic boom in the early 1990s, the Asian financial crisis in 1997, the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist bombings, and the SARS epidemic and outbreak of the war in Iraq last year-"not to mention the typhoons."

"But we survived," he said. "Now, I feel sad about leaving Saipan. I know I will always be attached to this island." (Agnes E. Donato)



Aqua Resort Club general manager Mark Murai, 2nd left, received a plaque of appreciation from his colleagues at the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands on Saturday. Also in photo are, from left, Hyatt Regency Saipan general manager and HANMI secretary Michael von Siebenthal, Pacific Gardenia general manager and HANMI chairman Ronald Sablan, and World Resort Saipan general manager and HANMI vice chairman B.K. Park.

Budlight sends Mostales to New York

By CASSIE DLG FEJERAN SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Marianas Pacific Distributors Inc. will be sending two people from Saipan in an all-expense paid trip to New York City on Sept. 4-10, to take part in the ESPN 25th Anniversary Party.

"There were over a 100 people that showed up at the Joeten Shopping Center in Susupe," said promotions coordinator Nathan Sablan

Despite the long wait for the last two contestants to arrive, it was just the right time for Sid Mostales to take his turn on the sling shot, which gave him the opportunity to win the coveted prize—a chance to witness two baseball games and ESPN's 25th anniversary party in the Big Apple.

"I've been buying Budweiser for the past few days, but I didn't have it with me. When I went in to Joeten and bought Budweiser, she [Kay Moses] said that I should sign up and play," said Mostales.

"I have no idea who to take with me. There is no one yet on the list, because my nephew [Joey Mostales] is going to be leaving for training next week," he added.

Several participants came close to the target, with Dave Palacios coming in second place.

Other participants in the event included Phil Pickarell, Christy Lizama, and Nick Muna, among others.

Participants had to have any Bud Light ESPN gear on hand to register to participate. During registration, participants were asked if they are 21 years or older and if they are eligible to travel to the United States

The game involved shooting a rubber ball to the Budlight target that stood some 80 feet away from the standing point.

"The object of the game is to use the Bud Light launcher to shoot Bud Light balls. The person who lands their Bud Light bean-bag closest to the target wins the grand prize," Marpac said.

According to Sablan, Mostales and a guest will be joined with two winners from Guam and their guest, along with three to four chaperones from the Marpac company on Guam.

The hosts also indicated that while in New York, the winner and a guest will also get a chance to see a Major League Baseball game between the New York Yankees against the Phillidelphia Phillys, and New York Mets against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. The two will also get a tour of the Budweiser Newark Brewery.

mcdo

WEATHER FORECAST

PICTURE TIME: 2:25 A.M., DECEMBER 17, 2003

Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends from 6N130E through a tropical disturbance near 8N145E and finally to near 5N160E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the disturbance are found in the Mariana islands as well as between Yap and Chuuk or between 4N and 16N from 139E to 153E. Just east of the monsoon trough, a surface trough of low pressure continues to near the equator at 168E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are developing north and east of the trough or within 100 miles either side of a line from 9N160E to the equator at 173E, including Kosrae. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms across portions of the Marshall islands, between 4N and 16N from 170E to 180.



SAIPAN AND TINIAN

Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.

Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers. **Temperature:** Lows near 78. Highs near 86.



GUAM AND ROTA

Cloudy and breezy with scattered showers, some Cloudy and Dieczy with seattles and locally heavy, and a slight chance of thunderstorms.

Winds: East at 20-25 mph. Gusting in 35 mph in showers. **Temperature:** Lows near 78. Highs near 86.



PALAU
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.



POHNPEI

Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Winds: East at 10 kt.



YAP AND ULITHI Partly cloudy with

isolated showers. Winds: Northeast at 10 kt.



KOSRAE

Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Winds: Southeast at 10 kt.



CHUUK

Mostly cloudy with scattered showers with a slight chance of thunderstorms. Winds: Northeast at 10-15 kt.



MAJURO

MAJUNG
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Winds: East at 10-15 kt.

	CITY	FORECAST	HIGH	LOW
2	Auckland	Cloudy	61F (16C)	49F (9C)
樂	Beijing	Sunny	44F (7C)	26F (-3C)
4	Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	74F (23C)	61F (16C)
4	Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86F (30C)	72F (22C)
2	London, England	Cloudy	56F (13C)	45F (7C)
	Los Angeles	Cloudy	69F (21C)	51F (11C)
2	Manila	Cloudy	88F (31C)	71F (22C)
*	Melbourne	Sunny	73F (23C)	54F (12C)
4	Miami	Partly Cloudy	84F (29C)	75F (24C)
	New York, NY	Cloudy	52F (11C)	48F (9C)
11	Osaka	Rain	54F (12C)	46F (8C)
2	Paris	Cloudy	53F (12C)	41F (5C)
1	Pusan	Rain	58F (14C)	43F (6C)
4	Rome	Partly Cloudy	55F (13C)	39F (4C)
11	Salem, Oregon	Rain	54F (12C)	38F (3C)
*	San Francisco	Sunny	64F (18C)	47F (5C)
1	Seoul	Rain	52F (11C)	45F (7C)
if the	Tokyo	Rain	55F (13C)	49F (9C)
2	Washington, DC	Cloudy	60F (16C)	48F (9C)

tribune

Opinion



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MEME	BER
▲P The Associated Press	Pacific Islands News Association
EDITORIAL	

Los Angeles Times



Letters to the Editor

Saipan Tribune welcomes contributions. All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name, address and, if possible, fax or telephone number. Letters are edited for space, clarity and fairness.



8 SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2004

Our World At War

Flag of Palau flying high in the sky

KOROR, Palau PIR)—The flag of the Republic of Palau, a full moon against a blue sky, will fly higher than ever before. The flag is displayed on Palau Micronesia Air's 737-300, which made its inaugural flight Friday night to Darwin, Australia.

"We're proud to have our own airline with our island's name. In a way, it kind of sets us apart from other islands in that we're brave enough to take part in this," said Valentina Edesomel, a resident of Ngerchemai in Koror.

old resident of Medalaii in Koror and many other Palauans echoed Edesomel's sentiments.

But while they were proud of the inaugural flight and the possibilities ahead, some residents said they had some concerns about the fledgling airline's ability to compete with other airlines in an arena where other airlines have failed

Yamada said it will be difficult for Palau Micronesia Air to compete with Continental Airlines, which has flown routes between

Cecelia Yamada, a 53-year- Palau, Guam and other islands in Micronesia for decades.

> "It's going to be hard to catch up with Continental because they have more money and they're bigger," Yamada said.

"Right when Palau Air announced cheaper flights to the Philippines for \$199, Continental announced a \$189 air fare to the Philippines."

Alan Seid, part owner and chief executive officer of the fledgling Palau Micronesia Air, said he's not trying to compete with Continental.

will support us and keep us alive for years to come," Seid said.

so it's harder to compete with

them. I don't think we ever

wanted to come in and try to

outdo Continental. We just want

to get our little niche in the mar-

He added that feasibility

studies have shown that the

Asia-Pacific market can ab-

local people—the island people—

"And of course, we do hope the

ket," Seid said.

sorb a small airline.

"They've got a deeper pocket popped up during interviews have professionals," he said. with various Palauan residents yesterday was Air Nauru's failure in the region.

But Seid said he hears the comparisons made between Palau Micronesia Air and Air Nauru, but no comparison can be made.

The PMA chief executive officer said the biggest difference between the two airlines is the ownership and the expertise behind the ventures.

"PMA is not a national airline. We don't have a govern-

Seid pointed to other successful airlines based in Pacific islands: 'Tahiti Nui is a great success. Air Asia, which uses the same type of aircraft, is a huge success."

But Seid also acknowledged the risk involved in the airline industry.

"We've done our homework. We had our feasibility studies done and we've taken the risk and made the investments," Seid said. "At this point, there's only one way to find out what One of the concerns that ment trying to run an airline. We happens. We just need to do it."

Raffles to manage new Tahiti hotel

PAPEETE, Tahiti (Tahitipresse, PIR)-Raffles International announced Monday the signing of a management agreement for the 65-villa luxury resort on French Polynesia's island of Tahaa, the group's first

property in the South Pacific.

Raffles Taimana Resort Tahaa, reportedly still a project that has not yet begun construction, will offer 65 one-bedroom and two-bedroom villas, three food and beverage facilities, a meeting room, a library, a

RafflesAmrita Spa, tennis court and a diving center, according to a Raffles press release. More than 80 percent of the resort will be built over water, providing views of the nearby islands of Raiatea and Bora Bora.

Workshop on for young girls

The House of Manhoben at Chalan Kanoa is holding a Workshop called "Young Female Empowerment" for girls in the CNMI ages 12 to 18 years old.

Topics include building self-esteem and women in leadership, including many fun cooperative activities that will be offered.

The Workshop will be at the Pacific Islands Club on Sept. 25, from 8:30am to 2:30pm.

Registration for the workshop is concurrent with the registration for Girls Volleyball, Girls Basketball and Girls Canoeing/Paddling at the House of Manhoben Center, from 2:30pm to 5:30pm.

"Let's give our young girls a chance. The above events are for girls only," a House of Manhoben statement said.

Parents are encouraged to register their daughters. Space is limited, therefore, it will be on a first come-first serve basis.

Families with Disabilities officers meeting set

The CNMI Association of Families with Disabilities meeting will be held on Aug. 31, 2004, 6pm, at Skyway Restaurant, Airport Road. Should you have any questions call Lisa A. Aldan at 483-0395 or Vicky Tudela at 288-7676 for further information.

All parents and community members are welcomed to attend this meeting.

Chacha resets its PTSA meeting

The administration of Chacha Oceanview Junior High School would like to inform all parents, guardians, students and the community that the scheduled PTSA meeting for Aug. 26, 2004 was

cancelled and is rescheduled for next week Thursday, Sept. 2, 2004. If you have any questions or concerns call 664-4100, 664-4105 or 664-4106. Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation.

Youth Learning Center registration to start

The Garapan Youth Learning Center announces its open-house/ registration beginning Aug. 30, 2004 to Sept. 3, from 9am to 4:30pm. Interested parents are encouraged to visit the center. The center provides services on tutoring in general subjects, computer lab, sports, guidance and counseling and other related educational activities. Services are free of charge and available to youth from grade levels 1st through 12th. For more information contact 664-7883.

E-form for SHEFA scholarship now available

Applications for Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance are now available online and can be downloaded by accessing its website: www.saipanshefa.com.

This option is especially helpful for those students who are currently abroad, and qualified to avail of this assistance.

The scholarship, which is under the Municipality of Saipan, Office of the Mayor, aims to provide supplementary financial assistance pursuant to Saipan Local Law 13-21, to qualified residents of Saipan (inclusive of the Northern Islands) in pursuing postsecondary education on Saipan or abroad.

Under the rules, ongoing applicants need to submit official sealed transcript, valid Saipan municipal ID No., and official class registration. New

applicants are asked to submit acceptance letter into a higher education institution, proof of one year residency on Saipan, most recent official sealed transcript, and valid Saipan ID. No.

Completed application and supporting documents must be submitted to SHEFA at the Mayor's Office.

For inquiries call 234-6208/234-6280 or email: jbtmayor@vzpacifica.net.

Motheread/ **Fatheread** schedule out

CNMI Motheread/ Fatheread® schedule for its upcoming classes is as follows:

- 6pmMondaysatGarapan Youth Learning Center 6pmTuesdaysatTanapag
- Head Start Center 6pmWednesdaysatSan
- RoqueHeadStartCenter 6pm Thursdays at Kag
- manIIHeadStartCenter 10amSaturdaysstarting today.Aug.28atKagman III Head Start Center

The classes run for eight weeks and meet one time a week. They are free. They are open to anyone wanting to learn how to read effectively with children as well as improve their own reading skills.

For more information contact the Motheread/Fatheread coordinator at 235-4785 or 235-

House of Manhoben open for registration

The House of Manhoben is open for registration in the following sports: Girls' Volleyball, Girls' Basketball and Girls' Canoeing, for ages 14-17 years old.

Registration dates and time are from Monday to Friday, 2: 30pm-5:30pm, at the House of Manhoben Center in Chalan Kanoa. Registration will end on Aug. 31.

Parents are encouraged to come and register their children. Space is limited; registration will be on a "first come- first served bases."

GUIDELINES FOR FLOOD CLEANUP

Flooding can cause the disruption of water purification and sewage disposal systems, overflowing of toxic waste sites, and dislodgement of chemicals previously stored aboveground. Although most floods do not cause serious outbreaks of infectious disease or chemical poisonings, they can cause sickness in workers and others who come in contact with contaminated floodwater. In addition, flooded areas may contain electrical or fire hazards connected with downed power lines.

Floodwater

Floodwater often contains infectious organisms, including intestinal bacteria such as E. coli, Salmonella, and Shigella; Hepatitis A virus; and agents of typhoid, paratyphoid and tetanus. The signs and symptoms experienced by the victims of waterborne microorganisms are similar, even though they are caused by different pathogens. These symptoms include nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal cramps, muscle aches, and fever. Most cases of sickness associated with flood conditions are brought about by ingesting contaminated food or water. Tetanus, however, can be acquired from contaminated soil or water entering broken areas of the skin, such as cuts, abrasions, or puncture spasms, known as lockjaw. The symptoms may appear weeks after exposure and may begin as a headache, but later develop into difficulty swallowing or opening the jaw.

Floodwaters also may be contaminated by agricultural or industrial chemicals or by hazardous agents present at flooded hazardous waste sites. Flood cleanup crew members who must work near flooded industrial sites also may be exposed to chemically contaminated floodwater. Although different chemicals cause different health effects, the signs and symptoms most frequently associated with chemical poisoning are headaches, skin rashes, dizziness, nausea, excitability, weakness, and fatigue.

Pools of standing or stagnant water become breeding grounds for mosquitoes, increasing the risk of encephalitis, West Nile Virus or other mosquito-borne diseases. The presence of wild animals in populated areas increases the risk of diseases caused by animal bites (e.g., rabies) as well as diseases carried by fleas and ticks.

Protect yourself

To avoid waterborne disease, it is important to wash your hands with soap and clean, running water. People should assume that any water in flooded or surrounding areas is not safe unless the local or state authorities have specifically declared it to be safe. If no safe water supply is available for washing, use bottled water, water that has been boiled for at least 10 minutes or chemically disinfected water. (To disinfect water, use 5 drops of liquid household bleach to each gallon of water and let sit for at least 30 minutes for disinfection to be completed.) Water storage containers should be rinsed periodically with a household bleach solution. If water is

suspected of being contaminated with hazardous chemicals, cleanup workers may need to wear special chemical protective outer clothing and goggles. Before entering a contaminated area that has been flooded, you should put on plastic or rubber gloves, boots, and other protective clothing needed to avoid contact with

Decrease the risk of mosquito and other insect bites by wearing long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and by using insect repellants. Wash your hands with soap and water that has been boiled or disinfected before preparing or eating foods, after using the bathroom, after participating in flood cleanup activities, and after handling articles contaminated by flood waters. In addition, children should not be allowed to play in flood waters or with toys that have been in contact with flood waters. Toys should be disinfected.

What to do if symptoms develop

If you have any of the signs or symptoms listed above, appropriate first-aid treatment and medical advice should be sought. If the skin is broken, particularly with a puncture wound or a wound in contact with potentially contaminated material, a tetanus vaccination may be needed if it has been five years or more since your last tetanus shot.

Tips to remember

- Before working in flooded areas, be sure your tetanus shot is current (given within the last 10 years). Wounds that are associated with a flood should be evaluated for risk; a physician may recommend a tetanus immunization.
- Consider all water unsafe until local authorities announce that the public water supply is safe.
- Do not use contaminated water to wash and prepare food, brush your teeth, wash dishes, or make ice.
- Keep an adequate supply of safe water available for washing and potable water for drink-
- Be alert for chemically contaminated floodwater at industrial sites.
- Use extreme caution with potential chemical and electric hazards, which have great potential for fires and explosions. Floods have the strength to move and/or bury hazardous waste and chemical containers far from their normal storage places, creating a risk for those who come into contact with them. Any chemical hazards, such as propane tank, should be handled by the fire department or
- If the safety of a food or beverage is questionable, throw it out.
- Seek immediate medical care for all animal

For further inquiries about health and safety in association with flooded areas, you may contact an OSHA representative at 322-8615, and ask for Jim Wulff or Ray Deleon Guerrero.

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Good Housekeeping

Rastra: The modern way to build a safe haven

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Termites by the thousands were chewing through the frame of architect Russell K. Johnson's Santa Monica condominium. Even a hefty dose of pesticide couldn't kill the destructive insects. "They just kept eating away," he said. Frustrated, he decided to do what many might consider impossible: build a stylish, modern home immune to the damaging effects of pests and the elements, a place tough enough to withstand fires and earthquakes.

Johnson, 55, considered an array of alternative building materials, searching for permanence in a place where nature and society often render architecture disposable. "There had to be a better material than wood," he said. "I looked into straw bales, rammed earth, rubber tires, you name it." None of those made sense.

Finally, while researching his problem on the Internet, he stumbled upon a material that seemed to meet his goal: 12-inch-thick building blocks made of recycled Styrofoam mixed with cement. The system, called Rastra, had been invented in 1972 by a mechanical engineer in Austria. Although builders were using the large bricks extensively in Arizona and New Mexico to replicate thick adobe walls, no one had used Rastra to build a house in Los Angeles. Johnson decided to be the first.

Three years later, Johnson and his wife, Maryann Fraser, reside on Los Angeles' west side in a home that they believe is impervious to almost any malady to befall a house, especially fire. "There is no wood in the construction of the house," Johnson said. "There's nothing to burn."



Russell Johnson designed the table and painted the seascape on the wall.

LOS ANGELES TIMES

With tough materials and a simple design, Johnson was determined to create a structure that will stand the test of time.

"In a typical house nowadays, there are 20 different sizes of wood, 10 different kinds of nails and screws," Johnson said. "With Rastra, you use five or six materials...In Europe, homes are built to last centuries instead of 50 to 80 years, like they are here. That was one of our basic concepts here: Build a home that will survive 500 years."

One thing is certain: No termite will ever make a meal of these walls.

The house is the architectural equivalent of a Hummer. It's a solid, boxy-looking place that stands out yet somehow fits into its neighborhood of 1940s single-family homes. Inside, it's spacious, with high ceilings and a wall of double-glazed windows that frame a back yard shaded by mature poplar trees.

Everything about this place reflects Johnson's sensibilities. He's a practical man who grew up on a farm in Minnesota, learning how to use every tool in his father's shed. He fixed tractors, built barns and dabbled with contemporary art, creating sculptures out of metal scraps. Trying to meld his artistic side with a love of building things, he headed off to study architecture at the University of Minnesota. After graduation, he apprenticed as a cabinetmaker.

Inspired by Frank Lloyd Wright, the first U.S. architect to blend the functionality of buildings, interiors and furniture into a single concept, Johnson wanted to design and build his own home. He also admired R.M. Schindler's work, but Johnson found it troubling that some of the architect's structures were badly weather-beaten.

After his own termite debacle at the Santa Monica condominium, Johnson decided to act. He learned about Rastra on a website dedicated to environmental news. Determined to find out more, he drove to Redlands and Palm Springs, to look at several houses built from the material. Next, he combed through test data and case studies.

Johnson and Fraser went looking for a lot to build their dream home. They considered buying an old house and tearing it down, but that seemed impractical.

Eventually the couple found a small, tree-shaded parcel near Interstate 10..."We immediately liked the lot because of the trees," Johnson said. After closing escrow, he went to work on designing the house. He wanted a two-story, modern-looking structure, but he didn't want the building to overpower the traditional ranch-style houses in the neighborhood.

"I wanted to stay fairly conservative," said Johnson. "As you get older, things that you thought were really far out in the '60s suddenly look kind of dated in 2003. I didn't want anything too wild."

He did, however, want a wall of windows facing the back yard, "something with a lot of natural light," Fraser explained. The windows-all doubleglazed to block out heat and harmful ultraviolet rays—could also be retrofitted to include roll-down steel shades, to protect them from fire.

With plans in hand, Johnson headed to downtown Los Angeles to obtain building permits. At first, city officials weren't sure what to make of the proposal.

The architect ordered hundreds of hollow Rastra blocks, which were delivered on a flatbed truck from a production facility in Arizona. The men stood on scaffolding, pulling the heavy bricks up with ropes. They stacked the blocks nearly two stories high and then reinforced the material with rebar.

THIS IS A HAMMER

Getting your house ready to sell

By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA

(C) 2004 KING FEATURES SYND., INC

• After 10 years in our three-• bedroom ranch, we plan to put our house on the market early next year. Neither my husband nor I want to spend a lot of money remodeling this place just to put a few extra dollars in our pockets, but we don't want it sitting here unsold for months and months. Any suggestions?—Nora L., Kennesaw, Ga.

•I agree, you shouldn't spend thousands of dollars on renovations when you don't even plan to enjoy them. And there are plenty of low-cost ways to improve the appearance of your house so that it appeals to buyers, as long as you invest a little sweat into it.

First and foremost, a complete cleanup of the house and yard is a must. After 10 years, even a neatly kept home builds up clutter in the form of magazines, books, knickknacks and furniture. All of this has to go-including the junk stored in the garage—to make way for a minimally furnished house that shows off the features a

buyer might love: the ornate mantelpiece, the high ceilings, the nearly new carpets, the spacious garage.

Suddenly shifting all the personal items that make your house feel like home can, frankly, be stressful for both of you. So take things slowly and give yourself several weeks to complete this task. Visit a few open houses first to gain an idea of how your house might look. Then, make an inventory of items in every room and decide what furniture should stay. Finally, rent a storage space to place furniture and items you want to keep, but not display. Each week, gradually add to the storage space.

Painting—either indoors or out can dramatically improve a home's appearance for just a few dollars. Outside, freshen the house's appearance by mixing neutral colors with strong contrasting trim. Inside, paint the walls in warm, white or neutral colors.

Keep up with minor repairs. A leaky faucet, water stains on the ceiling or a hole in the carpet will be noticed by potential buyers, but can be fixed fairly quickly. Anything that is broken and in clear sight, like a screen door hanging off its hinges, must be fixed before the house goes on the market.

Make sure the yard, especially in front, is regularly watered and mowed, and clear away things like lawn furniture, toys, parked cars and so on. Trim the hedges and hire a tree service to prune errant branches. A neatly kept front yard, even if the grass is a bit patchy, will attract buyers; a clean and neat back yard will only improve things.

Start cleaning and patching up the house now, while the weather is warm and the listing is still several months off. Handling these details now will lessen the amount of work needed when you're trying to convince a buyer to meet your sale price.

HOME TIP: Visit several open houses before listing your own home for sale to get an idea of the visual elements used in each room that appeal to potential buyers.

Send questions or home repair tips to homeguru2000@hotmail.com, or write This Is a Hammer, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.





Local Pumpkin Cheesecake

Recipe for 8 servings

- 1-1/2 cups gingersnap crumbs or Graham crackers
- 1/2 cup finely chopped pecans or your choice of nuts
- 1/3 cup butter, melted
- 24 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup and 2 tablespoon sugar white sugar

1-1/2 cups pumpkin purée (freshly cooked)

- 1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract 4 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon powder 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Methods: Preheat oven to 350°F. Combine gingersnap crumbs or Graham crackers, pecans and butter. Press onto bottom and 1-1/2 inches up sides of a 9inch spring form pan. Bake for 10 minutes in 350°F oven. Remove and let cool.

Combine cream cheese, 2/3 cup sugar and vanilla, mixing at medium speed on electric mixer until well blended. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Remove 1cup batter from mixture and chill for 8 hours. Add remaining sugar, pumpkin and spices to remaining batter; mix well.

Alternately layer pumpkin and cream cheese batter over the crust. Cut through layers of batter with a knife several times to achieve marble effect.

Bake at 350°F for 1 hour and 15 minutes. Loosen cake from rim of pan; cool before removing rim of pan. Chill before serving.

Chef's cooking tips: How to prevent mold on cheese? Wrap it in a cloth dampened with saltwater before refrigerating.

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The Good Life

Baccarat builds a crystal palace in Paris

By JURA KONCIUS THE WASHINGTON POS

While thousands of tourists throng the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre here each summer day, Parisians with a taste for the finer things in life are steering visitors to a less known, more exclusive destination in the swank 16th arrondissement: the new headquarters of French crystal company Baccarat.

Founded in 1764, Baccarat crystal is among France's most prestigious exports. The crystal is sold at exclusive Baccarat boutiques around the world, as well as at high-end stores such as Neiman Marcus and Bloomingdale's, where their elegant wine glasses start at about \$60 apiece and go up from there.

The Baccarat mother ship, a chic crystal palace housed in a historic "hotel crafted over the centuries for kings, popes and the ultra rich and famous. A jewelbox restaurant called the Cristal Room, which seats just 50, has become a favorite among Paris foodies; those truly flush with euros might book the even more intimate pale pink private dining room crowned by a striking, almost spooky, black crystal chandelier.

A shop on the ground floor offers the company's sparkling creations, from crystal earrings and cobalt blue wine goblets to breathtaking chandeliers.

The crystal theme park, which opened last November, went through an extensive renovation and redesign under the direction of French uber-designer Philippe Starck, master of illusion, who restored the space with his characteristic sly humor.

Inside, beyond the red Baccarat awning, visitors enter a cool hush of semi-darkness

> where thick red carpet twinkling with fiber-optics leads through room after room of crystal extravagance. At the entrance, a giant, fullylit chandelier is partially submerged under bubbling water in an aquarium (a few crystals have been known to float to the bottom). A life-size arm made of crystal emerges from a mirrored wall holding an illuminated torch. Up a sweeping marble staircase to the grand foyer sit an Alice-in-Wonderland-size crystal chair and a massive 157-light antique Baccarat chandelier hanging above, turning slowly.

> The Baccarat public museum and the flashy new headquarters are part of a global push to reflect an updated image for the 240-year-old company, which is now headed by Anne-Claire Taittinger, of the famous Taittinger champagne family.

"In the United States, I think we are still perceived by some as a stiff, traditional tabletop brand," says Anne Schuhmacher, Baccarat's spokeswoman in Paris, leading a tour of the mansion last month. We want to project a look that is younger, more modern and gives a strong sign of this change."

"We wanted people to be able to touch crystal and see what it is all about," she continued. "And because we wanted poetry, dreams and magic, Philippe Starck was the obvious choice. He came here on his motorcycle, saw the house and fell in love."

Last year was not a terrific year for sales of luxury goods such as French crystal. But Schuhmacher says 2004 has been strong, especially in the United States. which makes up 21 percent of Baccarat's global sales. About 80 percent of Bacca-



THE WASHINGTON POST

While thousands of tourists throng the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre each summer day, Parisians with a taste for the finer things in life are steering visitors to the new headquarters of French crystal company Baccarat

visibility is to extend sales of crystal not only as a wedding gift staple but as a glam component of modern entertaining. The company has brought in contemporary design luminaries such as Andree Putman, Christian Tortu and Barbara Barry to enliven the collection. And in the 1990s. Baccarat introduced a highly successful line of crystal rings, bracelets and necklaces, which now accounts for more than 25 percent of total sales.

The main shopping room at the new headquarters, once the drawing room of the elegant old mansion, is now a study in contrasts. Raw concrete walls surround a vast illuminated display table with crystal legs and a mirrored top holding goblets, orbs, decanters and vases arranged in constantly changing tableaux. A VIP room is set aside for celebrity customers such as Mick Jagger or France's first lady Bernadette Chirac to shop privately for their crystal whims.

Up the staircase to the museum (which has an admission fee of seven eurosabout \$8.75) visitors find cases displaying rare and even historic examples of Baccarat perfection: 12-foot candelabras ordered by Czar Nicholas II; engraved bar tumblers from Ari Onassis' yacht; plain crystal plates favored by Coco Chanel; wedding tableware made for Josephine Baker. And there are lavish crystal tables and chairs custom ordered by 19th-century maharajas that were



A chandelier suspended under water at Baccarat headquarters in Paris.

delivered on an elephant's back.

The Cristal Room restaurant is attracting its own glitterati. The coveted stainless steel tables set with Baccarat candlesticks and glasses are booked about two months in advance.

For more information and hours of operation call 01-40-22-11-00 or click on www.baccarat.fr.



A museum at the new headquarters of French crystal company Baccarat showcases chandeliers and goblets crafted over the centuries for kings, popes and the ultra rich and famous. Here, a rare black crystal chandelier in the private dining room at Baccarat headquarters in Paris.

> particulier@," is designed to show off the company's distinguished history and herald a cutting-edge style for the 21st century. The mansion, built in the late 19th century, became in the 1920s the salon of Marie-Laure de Noailles, a patron of the arts partial to dramatic entrances and outrageous outfits, who threw parties for such

> The upper floors of the gracious building now accommodate more sober corporate offices. Downstairs, the most glittery draw for the public is a crystal museum showcasing chandeliers and goblets

notables as Salvador Dali and Man Ray. rat's French-made products are exported.

Part of the campaign for high-style

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Life & Style

Willis to pay \$21,000 for violation

HAILEY, Idaho (AP)—Actor Bruce Willis will pay a \$21,000 fine for violating federal wetlands protection laws by clearing a half-acre island in a pond at his central Idaho home.

Willis was cited last October for clearing the small island, installing a sprinkler system, and adding topsoil to level depressions so sod could be laid. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials claimed he also dumped 10 cubic yards of fill material in a stream to provide access to the island.

The wetlands had been part of a spring-fed tributary of the Big Wood River.

"He wanted to be able to use it and that's why he did what he did," said attorney Ned Williamson, who represented Willis. "He was cleaning up this island. He simply did not know it was in wetland jurisdiction."

Williamson said Willis stopped the work as soon as federal officials notified him and began restoration of the island to its former state before the settlement announced this week was negotiated.



Under the settlement, the Bruce Willis is shown in this April 5, 2004, file photo in New York.

island will be replanted and its wetlands character restored by Oct. 31. The site will then be monitored for the next decade.

The EPA says wetlands throughout Idaho, especially in the Sun Valley resort area, are disappearing because of burgeoning development and increased recreational use.

"Less than one percent of our state is wetlands," said Jim Werntz, the EPA's Idaho director. "And that one percent provides over 50 percent of Idaho's wildlife habitat.

It was the second time Willis, star of films like the "Die Hard" series and "The Sixth Sense," has run afoul of environmental regulations at the residence he has owned since 1987.

In 1998, the Idaho Department of Water Resources cited him for violating conditions of a stream alteration permit and required him to remove rock jetties and flow control structures installed in the Big Wood River.

The department dropped all charges against Willis in that case after he cooperated with federal officials, Williamson said.

Wife of alcoholic found courage to finally leave

By AVIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing about the letter you printed from "Fed Up in Richmond, Texas," whose husband's idea of an evening out or a day off is getting drunk. I hope she takes your advice to go to Al-Anon.

I fell in love and married a man who exhibited similar drinking behavior. It became worse during the 20 years we were together. I was verbally abused, humiliated and, at the end, feared for my safety as well as the children's.



I was very naive. He convinced me that I was crazy, threatened my family and threatened to take off with the children if I left. At age 40, I finally found the courage and strength to do it.

It took lots of counseling, but I now understand that I was caught up in his sickness. I regret that I wasted my youth on this man. I hope "Fed Up" opens her eyes and won't be caught up like I was in what domestic violence counselors call "the honeymoon cycle." That's where you bring his behavior to his attention, he promises he'll change, it's a great month or so -- and then he starts drinking again. I look back over those years and see a bad movie filled with heartache for me and my children.

It wasn't easy, but it has been worth it. I am now treated with the love and respect I deserve. My children and I are happier than we've ever been. I'm a stronger person now, and we're blessed with a wonderful man who saw us through outrageous court battles, restraining orders, stalking and intimidation tactics.

"Fed Up" deserves love and respect, too. But she and her child won't get it from her spouse if she doesn't DEMAND it. I wish her strength, courage and no regrets.

REBORN IN PORTLAND, ORE.

DEAR REBORN: I, too, hope that "Fed Up" will take your letter to heart and find help before her husband's problem escalates to the point that your husband's did. Addiction problems cannot be ignored. If the problem isn't addressed, it doesn't "level off"; it grows worse until the addiction takes over the lives of everyone around the addict. I'm pleased that you finally found the strength to free yourself and your children. Thank you for writing.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 14 and my name is "Pearl." I just found out that I might have chlamydia. I really like this guy and I need to know if I should tell him. What should I do? I am a little scared. Please answer soon.

NEEDS TO KNOW IN LANCASTER, CALIF.

DEAR NEEDS TO KNOW: You should be examined by a doctor right away. If you do indeed have chlamydia, your partner must be notified so he can also be treated.

Ask your mother to schedule an appointment for you. If you cannot talk to her about this, then call the county health department and ask for the location of the nearest clinic where you can be treated confidentially. DO NOT PUT IT OFF. If you have chlamydia and aren't treated, it could cause fertility problems for you in the future.

Since you are sexually active, it is important that you learn to protect yourself against an unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases so that you are not reinfected or infect others.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440,

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Actor Stewart recovers from angioplasty

Penthouse' founder's furniture on auction

RED HOOK, N.Y. (AP)— The contents from Robert Guccione's old summer getaway are about to be put on the auction block.

Some 400 items owned by the Penthouse magazine founder, ranging from a hand-carved 16th-century Italian canopy bed to a 17th-century hand-carved Flemish cabinet, are to be auctioned Sept. 4.

Guccione lost the 16room mansion in Staatsburg 80 miles north of New York City after defaulting on a \$14.5 million loan in February. Kennedy Funding of New Hackensack, N.J., then acquired the 55-acre estate in Dutchess County when Guccione declared bankruptcy.

Auctioneer George Cole said Guccione has no room for the belongings from his summer home in his New York City town house.

Items at the auction, Cole said recently, are expected to fetch prices from as high as \$50,000 to less than \$25.

Based in Red Hook, N.Y., George Cole Auctioneers outbid internationally known Christie's and Sotheby's auction houses for the right to auction Guccione's property.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"X-Men" star Patrick Stewart is recovering at home after under-

going an angioplasty procedure earlier this week to widen an artery, his publicist said Friday.

Angioplasty volves the use of catheters to place a small balloon in a narrowed blood channel. When the balloon is inflated, the artery flows more freely.



Generation"—went in for an annual physical on Monday, according to his publicist, Kelly Bush. Doctors detected a

Jean-Luc Picard on

'Star Trek: The Next

The 64-year-old Stewart—who

played Professor Xavier in "X-

Men" and its sequel, and Captain

blood-flow problem and recommended

"pre-emptive angioplasty" head off any future ailments.

Bush described the procedure as a success and said he is resting before returning to work next week, where he plans to finish the upcoming movie "The Game of Their Lives." He will also start voice over work on the Fox TV animated series "American Dad."

However, Stewart's recovery will force him to miss a planned personal appearance on Saturday in Toronto, where he was set to visit a Canadian sci-fi festival.

Second 'Apprentice' cast hired

NEW YORK (AP)—On your mark. Get set. You're fired! NBC has revealed the contestants on the second season of "The Apprentice." The lineup, without last names, was released in a statement Friday and on the firstseason DVD bonus materials.

"If we had A-type people in season one, we have triple A-type people in season two," said executive producer Mark Burnett on the DVD.

In the second "Apprentice" outing, which will have its 90-minute premiere Sept. 9, there are 18 contestants, two more than last season. Four of the tycoon-trainees are from New York; three are from San Francisco. Four graduated from Harvard. The oldest contestant is 37; the youngest is 23.

The lineup includes an Ivana (but not THAT Ivana, Trump's former wife); Pamela, who bears a resemblance to Carolyn Kepcher, one of Trump's advisers on the show; a Stacie and a Stacy; and two Jennifers.

They are divided into two teams, with contestants vying "for the dream job of a lifetime with The Trump Organization and a hefty six-figure salary." One

contestant is "fired" each week by Trump in a tense boardroom showdown.

The female contestants are: Pamela, 32, an investment firm partner who says the competitors will "eat each other"; Jennifer

C., 31, a real-estate agent who's also an equestrian; Stacie, 35, a model who owns a Subway franchise in Harlem: Jennifer M., 29, a lawyer; Sandy, 28, and Elizabeth, 31, business owners who describe themselves as innovative; Maria, 31, a shorthaired marketing executive who's critical of the women on the first season; Stacy, 26, a lawyer; and

Ivana, 28, a venture capitalist who says working with Trump would be the highlight of her career.

The male contestants are: Raj, 28, a bow-tie wearing real estate developer who doesn't really watch television; Brad-

> ford, 32, a shavedheaded and slightly goofy lawyer; Chris, 30, a stockbroker who thinks sells; Andy, 23, a recent Harvard grad who describes himself as a "swarthy gentleman"; John,

24, a marketing director who says good-looking people are smarter; Wes, 27, a wealth manager who believes season two's women won't use femininity to their advantage; Kevin, 29, a law student who says Trump is "the best"; Rob, 32, a Texas branding salesman; and Kelly, 37, a software executive who describes himself as a leader.



Trump

Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Funk, Johnson lead Buick Championship

By DONNA TOMMELLEO



CROMWELL, Conn. (AP)—Fred Funk has his confidence back. The 48-year-old Funk, pre-

paring for his first Ryder Cup appearance, shot his second straight 4-under 66 on Friday for a share of the lead with rookie Zach Johnson after the second round of the Buick Championship.

"I've got that where-it's-fun-to-play feeling again," Funk said. "I haven't had that in a while so I'm really looking forward to going out, no matter what I do."

Johnson, the Nationwide Tour player of the year last season who won the BellSouth Classic in March for his first PGA Tour title, had a 65 to match Funk at 8 under.

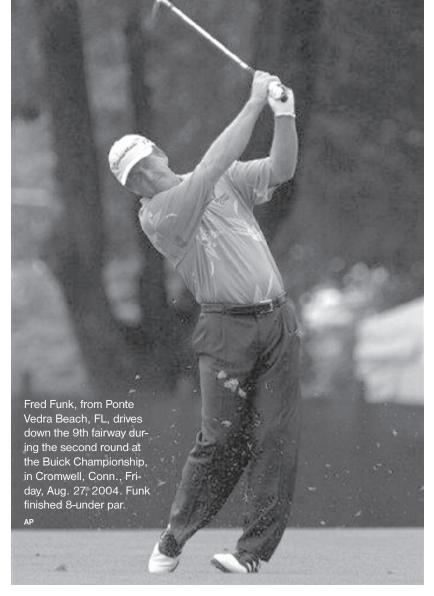
Long-hitting Hank Kuehne (65) was a stroke back, and first-round leader Corey Pavin (72) and Jose Coceres (66) were another shot behind.

Johnson hit all 14 fairways and oneputted seven greens.

"Any time you start hitting your driver well, 3-wood well off the tee box, vou feel like vou can do something," said Johnson, who has missed only one fairway in two days.

Johnson and Funk have played together this season in a threesome with Jack Nicklaus at the Memorial in May. That's where Funk realized that Johnson is no ordinary rookie.

"They're just so much more seasoned than when I came out on tour," Funk said.



Manning struggles in Giants' loss to the Jets



New Jersey (AP)—Eli Manning got his first dose of real NFL defensive schemes

and it had to taste awful.

The top choice in the NFL draft in April, the Giants' quarterback struggled against the New York Jets in a 17-10 loss Friday night. It was the Jets' ninth successive win in the annual preseason series.

The Jets threw all kinds of defensive looks at the Giants, but while starting quarterback Kurt Warner handled them decently and led his team to a firstquarter touchdown on Ron Dayne's 9yard run, Manning seemed befuddled.

Manning's first pass was intercepted by Donnie Abraham and he was also intercepted by Reggie Tongue in the third quarter. He went 4-for-14 for 20 yards with two interceptions, two sacks and a fumble. Warner was 9-of-11 for 104 yards.

In all, the Jets had five sacks, including John Abraham's in the second quarter on which Manning fumbled. After a scramble for the loose ball, safety Omare Lowe snared the ball and ran it in for a 27-yard touchdown and a 17-7 lead.

Jaguars 9, Packers 7

In Jacksonville, Josh Scobee's confidence grew with every kick. So did his chances of becoming the Jacksonville's kicker.

The rookie took advantage of an opportunity to prove he can be the answer to the Jaguars' kicking woes, booting three field goals to account for all of Jacksonville's points.

Scobee, a fifth-round draft pick from Louisiana Tech, missed three of

EAST RUTHERFORD, four field goal attempts in his first two preseason games, but was perfect on tries of 23, 32 and 43 yards against the

> Brett Favre played a half for Green Bay (1-2), throwing a 52-yard touchdown pass to Robert Ferguson in the second quarter.

Rams 28, Redskins 3

In St. Louis, Torry Holt's 7-yard touchdown catch in the second quarter was the first in three games this preseason for the Rams' starting offense.

The breakthrough prompted a hipgyrating dance from Holt that satisfied a restless crowd and helped St. Louis roll past Washington.

Steven Jackson had 125 yards on 25 carries for the Rams (1-2), including a 5-yard TD run on the Rams' first possession of the third quarter.

Vikings 23, 49ers 10

In Minneapolis, Daunte Culpepper went 20-for-27 for 204 yards and a touchdown, and Minnesota needed help from its reserves to deal San Francisco its third straight exhibition loss.

The Vikings outgained San Francisco 326-61 in total yards in the first half and took a 16-0 lead into halftime before allowing the 49ers to slowly close the gap.

Saints 17, Bears 13

In Chicago, third-team quarterback J.T. O'Sullivan set up his own go-ahead touchdown run with a long pass to lift New Orleans.

The sloppy game at Soldier Field took 3 1/2 hours to play and featured 30 penalties, including 18 on the Bears (2-1).

O'Sullivan, who split time with Todd

Bouman while Aaron Brooks sat out with a leg injury, heaved a 48-yard pass to rookie Devery Henderson to move the ball to the Chicago 1 with 5:31 left.

Broncos 31, Texans 17

In Denver, Jake Plummer threw for 159 yards, ran for score and led Denver's top unit to its first two touchdowns of the preseason.

Denver did its best to answer questions about its struggling first-team offense, scoring on drives of 68 and 85 yards after managing just four field goals the first three preseason games. Plummer finished 12-for-22 with an interception, Triandos Luke caught a 74-yard touchdown pass and Quentin Griffin had 54 yards and a touchdown on 13 carries.

Seahawks 26, **Chargers 20**

In San Diego, the Philip Rivers era in San Diego got off to a rousing start.

It didn't last long.

Rivers, the fourth overall pick in this vear's NFL draft who ended his holdout earlier this week, completed his first three passes for 72 yards, drawing loud cheers from the crowd of 35,536 at Qualcomm Stadium.

But the rookie misfired on his next seven throws, two of which were intercepted, in Seattle's exhibition victory.

Rivers, the second-leading passer in NCAA history at North Carolina State, wound up going 5-of-14 for 79 yards with the two interceptions.

Matt Hasselbeck completed 18 of 28 passes for 190 yards and one touchdown, and Shaun Alexander gained 62 yards on 15 carries to lead the Seahawks (2-1).

"They're not scared of anything. Sometimes their minds get in the way, but I don't see Zach as one of those players. He just has the total game."

Johnson began the day five strokes off the lead, but finished with six birdies to tie Funk in his first appearance at the TPC at River Highlands.

"I like every hole to be honest with you," Johnson said. "It's got everything. This golf course can suit anybody's game. You've got Hank Kuehne, who's playing well, and you've got Fred, who doesn't hit it very far, but he gets it out there.'

And he gets it where it counts. Funk, the most accurate driver on tour, treated the gallery to crisp shotmaking. The only green he missed was his last one.

The fans got behind him, especially down the stretch when he made three birdies on the last five holes.

Funk was 9 under heading into the final hole when he had to contend with a tricky lie on a fairway mogul and pushed his approach into the deep

rough to the right of the green. A poor chip left him about 15 feet from the hole and he two-putted for his only bogey in two days.

"I just got unlucky," Funk said. "You never feel good finishing with a bogey. That was really the only downside of the whole day."

The big-hitting Kuehne hit just 50 percent of his fairways, but averaged 294 yards off the tee when he did hit in regulation. He started the day six strokes off the lead and played himself into contention with four birdies in what he called "a low-stress round."

Pavin was coming off a career-best tying 62 on Thursday, but faltered early in the second round. He started on No. 10 and bogeyed his third hole, then double-bogeyed No. 16 after his drive landed in the greenside pond.

Eighty players made the cut at 1 over. Those heading home for the weekend included Fred Couples, Ryder Cup captain Hal Sutton and former tournament champ Nick Price.

NCAA defends decision to boot Williams

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—The NCAA says Mike Williams sent a clear message he no longer wanted to play college football by hiring an agent and dropping out of spring classes.

That's part of the reason Williams' appeal to be reinstated was rejected, Kevin Lennon, NCAA vice president for membership services, said in defending the decision Friday.

"At the end of the day, when we stepped back and looked, there was no question he violated the amateurism rule," Lennon told The Associated Press. "He said, 'I want to be a professional, I no longer want to be a college student-athlete."

Southern California's football team was in Maryland preparing for its season opener Saturday night against Virginia Tech and was unavailable for comment.

Vice president Todd Dickey, the university's legal counsel, said he was more upset that the NCAA strung out the process.

"Basically, they said hiring an agent and declaring for the draft was too much, and they knew that from the beginning," Dickey said.

Williams announced in February he would enter the NFL draft after former Ohio State running back Maurice Clarett twice beat the NFL in court. Those rulings opened the door for other underclassmen to turn pro early, but Williams was the only other college player to take advantage of the rulings.

In April, five days before the draft, a federal appeals court issued a stay. On May 24, the appeals court ruled in favor of the NFL, giving it the right to bar players who had been out of high school less than three years.

Williams, a 6-foot-5, 230-pound All-American wide receiver, severed ties with his agent, Mike Azzarelli, and enrolled in summer classes at Southern Cal.

But it wasn't enough to sway the NCAA's opinion.

"There were alternatives," Wally Renfro, senior adviser to NCAA President Myles Brand, said in a telephone interview from Washington, D.C. "There are things the studentathlete can do. He can seek advice from experts, he can enter his name in the draft. But the timing didn't require Mike to sign with an agent."

Williams would have been one of the leading Heisman Trophy candidates this year. Instead, the No. 1ranked Trojans will open defense of their national title without him.

He could challenge the NCAA ruling, but Williams would have to win appeals in two separate committees. Williams and a school attorney said Thursday they would not appeal.

Lennon said one factor committee members considered was when Williams stopped receiving benefits from his agent. He declined to say whether Williams was still receiving benefits following the April appeals court ruling.

A phone message left at Azzarelli's office was not immediately returned.

Williams' other problem was a new academic rule requiring student-athletes to complete six hours of classwork in the spring semester to remain eligible in the fall.

Southern Cal coach Pete Carroll called the decision cold and insensitive.

Renfro and Lennon said the NCAA acted within 24 hours of receiving the final paperwork, which both said arrived Wednesday night. Dickey said it took months to compile the documents.

"One of the things that's gotten out there is that we could have made this decision in a week or let Southern Cal know it was not going to be a positive decision," Renfro said. "Then you don't need any information, then you don't have a process."

Lennon said the NCAA heard about 1,100 reinstatement cases last year and that 99 percent of studentathletes won their appeals - most with conditions attached.

But the committee members found Williams' case was different.

Dickey said he understood the rules and the decision, he just wished the NCAA had made its intentions clear earlier.

"It was obvious to the NCAA and the whole world when he declared his intention to become a professional, that he wanted to be a professional," Dickey said. "The whole point of this was that he wanted to renounce his professionalism and return to being an amateur."

Braves top Giants for fifth straight victory

ATLANTA (AP)—Barry Bonds hit a three-run shot for his 694th homer, but Chipper Jones' two-run drive

helped the Atlanta Braves beat the San Francisco Giants 5-3 Friday night for their fifth straight victory.

Jaret Wright set a career high with his 13th win. Wright (13-6) also drove in the go-ahead run with a sixth-inning bunt.

The Giants remained one game behind the Chicago Cubs in the NL wildcard race. The Braves still lead Florida by 9 1/2 games in the NL East.

Astros 15, Cubs 7

In Chicago, Carlos Beltran hit two home runs and three other Houston players homered off a shaky Kerry Wood as the Astros snapped Chicago's five-game winning streak.

Jeff Bagwell and Lance Berkman had back-to-back solo shots off Wood (7-6), and Jeff Kent added a homer as Houston won for the ninth time in 12 games, moving within six games of Chicago in the NL wild-card race.

Beltran hit a solo homer in the first inning and a three-run shot in the ninth, giving him home runs in five straight games.

Cardinals 8, Pirates 5

In Pittsburgh, Jim Edmonds hit a pair of two-run homers and matched his career high with five RBIs, leading St. Louis over Pittsburgh.

Edmonds hit a two-run homer in the first inning and added another two-run shot in the third off Ryan Vogelsong (4-11) as St. Louis beat the Pirates for the fifth consecutive time.

Expos 10, Padres 3

In Montreal, Brad Wilkerson homered and had three RBIs, and Tony Batista hit a two-run homer to lead Montreal past San Diego.

Scott Downs (2-4) allowed three runs

in seven innings to help end the Padres' four-game winning streak. Recalled from Triple-A Edmonton on Thursday, he was making his sixth start of the season.

Phillies 6, Brewers 1

In Philadelphia, Vicente Padilla pitched seven shutout innings for his first win since May 23, and Philadelphia sent Milwaukee to its ninth straight loss.

The Phillies snapped a seven-game home losing streak. They scored all their runs with two outs in the fifth inning against Victor Santos (10-9), keyed by two-run singles from Bobby Abreu and David Bell.

Marlins 3, Rockies 0

In Miami, Ismael Valdez allowed just four hits before leaving in the seventh inning because of an Achilles' injury, and Luis Castillo hit an RBI single to lead Florida over Colorado.

Valdez, making his fourth start with the Marlins, fell awkwardly while fielding a groundball in the seventh. Valdez (11-7) left with a strained left Achilles' tendon. He struck out four in 62-3 innings to earn his second win since being acquired in a trade from the Padres.

Mets 9, Dodgers 2

In New York, Gerald Williams singled twice in a six-run first inning and New York broke out of its offensive funk in a big way, beating Los Angeles to end a five-game losing streak.

Tom Glavine hit an RBI single during the early burst and coasted to his 260th career win. Dodgers starter Wilson Alvarez (7-5) came out in the second inning with a bruised left forearm after being struck by Cliff Floyd's hard one-hopper.

Glavine (9-10) won for only the second time in 12 starts. He pitched six effective innings for his first victory since losing two front teeth in a taxi accident earlier this month.

Atlanta Braves' Eli Marrero (8) is forced out at second on the front end of a double play as San Francisco Giants second baseman Ray Durham, left, makes the throw to first to retire Eddie Perez in the second inning Friday, Aug. 27, 2004, in Atlanta.

Diamondbacks 4, Reds 3, 11 innings

In Cincinnati, Alex Cintron hit an RBI single in the 11th inning, lifting Arizona over Cincinnati.

Andy Green tripled off the rightfield wall with one out against Joe Valentine (1-3). After Quinton Mc-Cracken walked, Cintron hit a soft liner to center.

Yankees 8, Blue Jays 7

In Toronto, Derek Jeter, Hideki Matsui and Bernie Williams each homered and the New York Yankees held on for an 8-7 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays.

Esteban Loaiza failed to make it out of the fifth inning in another poor start since being acquired from the Chicago White Sox in a July 31 trade for Jose Contreras. He was removed after allowing four runs on seven hits in 4 1-3 innings.

Tanyon Sturtze (5-2) pitched 2 1-3 innings for the win. No Yankee starter has posted a win since Jon Lieber beat Seattle on Aug. 13—13 games.

Red Sox 5, Tigers 3

In Boston, Manny Ramirez singled and scored before leaving with a bruised knee, and the streaking Red Sox beat Detroit for their 10th victory in 11 games.

Ricky Gutierrez singled three times and drove in two runs, and Mark Bellhorn had a pair of hits to help the Red Sox win for the 13th time in 16 games and improve to a season-high 21 games over .500. The win was tempered by the loss of Ramirez, who fouled a pitch off his left knee. He was day to day after X-rays were negative.

Indians 6, White Sox 3

In Cleveland, C.C. Sabathia struck out 11 in six innings and Ronnie Belliard hit a three-run homer to lead the Indians over the Chicago White Sox, their second win in 12 games.

The White Sox lost their seventh in nine games and fell one game back of second-place Cleveland in the AL Central.

Sabathia (10-8) tied a career high for strikeouts and won for the first time in three starts. He gave up five hits and two walks.

Rangers 6, Orioles 4

In Arlington, Texas, John Wasdin pitched six strong innings in his return from the minors, and the Rangers handed Baltimore its 11th consecutive loss.

Eric Young reached base in all four plate appearances, with two walks and two singles. He stole a base, scored Texas' first run and drove in the last two.

With their 11th win in 14 games, the Rangers remained two games behind Boston in the AL wild-card race. They also beat the Orioles for the first time in 10 tries.

Angels 9, Twins 6

In Anaheim, Adam Kennedy and Garret Anderson each hit a two-run homer, and the Angels beat Minnesota for their ninth straight victory.

Aaron Sele (8-1) allowed two runs and six hits in six innings, improving to 17-4 in his career against the Twins while helping the Angels match their longest winning streak of the season. Anaheim has won 17 of 21 overall to move a season-best 20 games over .500.

Athletics 8, Devil Rays 7

In Oakland, Erubiel Durazo hit a tworun homer, Eric Chavez also connected and the Athletics rallied from a fourrun deficit to beat Tampa Bay.

Marco Scutaro also homered for the A's, who have won five straight and 10 of 11. They maintained their one-game lead over Anaheim in the AL West.

Justin Duchscherer (5-4) pitched five scoreless innings of relief for the win. He allowed four hits with no walks and struck out three.

Mariners 7, Royals 5

In Seattle, Bret Boone hit a go-ahead two-run homer in the eighth inning and the Mariners had a season-high six home runs in a victory over Kansas City.

The teams combined for nine home runs to match the most ever hit in a game at Safeco Field, which opened July 15, 1999. Cleveland and Seattle accomplished the feat on July 16. The Indians hit eight in an 18-6 win.

Trailing 5-4, Boone hit his 18th homer off D.J. Carrasco (2-2) with pinch-runner Ramon Santiago aboard. Scott Spiezio followed with a solo shot off Carrasco.

Potential Bryant jurors arrive at trial

EAGLE, Colo. (AP)—Kobe Bryant's trial began Friday with 300 prospective jurors arriving at the county courthouse to fill out questionnaires, the first step toward choosing 12 people who will decide whether the NBA star is guilty of rape.

Many arrived by car, though one rode her bicycle to the courthouse despite a chilly breeze and streets wet with overnight rain. Some appeared to know each other, chatting and laughing as they walked up the circular driveway All are from Fagle County

Bryant was not at the courthouse. Jury selection will probably take most of next week. Opening statements are not expected until Sept. 7.

Bryant has pleaded not guilty to felony sexual assault, saying he had consensual sex with a then-19-yearold employee of the Vail-area resort where he stayed last summer. If convicted, the Los Angeles Lakers star faces four years to life in prison or 20 years to life on probation, and a fine up to \$750,000.

The county issued 999 jury summonses, easily the biggest jury call in its history. About 165 could not be delivered, and about 150 people were excused primarily because they are no longer county residents or U.S. citizens.

The prospective jurors filled out 82item questionnaires that defense attorneys, prosecutors and their consultants have agonized over for weeks and will remain sealed until at least next week.

Attornevs in the case will scrutinize the answers over the weekend, developing lists of potential jurors they want eliminated and those they want to talk to.

Attorneys are expected to begin closed-door questioning of individuals Monday, starting with 25 to 30 prospective jurors. The same number will return Tuesday and more might be scheduled Wednesday, depending on progress, state courts spokeswoman Karen Salaz said.

Attorneys for news organizations including The Associated Press have asked the judge to open much of the questioning, and a hearing on the request is scheduled Monday.

Media attorneys are also asking the judge to unseal statements Bryant made to investigators who interviewed him the night after the alleged attack. Defense attorneys oppose the request, saying the evidence could hurt Bryant's right to a fair trial.

Serena says she's 90 to 95 percent back **NEW YORK** (AP)—The first thing you I did it. And I'm here."

notice is the scar. It's a jagged 2-inch line running just above Serena Williams' left knee, a reminder of the surgery that sidelined her for the last half of 2003 and the start of this season.

She has another reminder: the pain in that knee, keeping her off the tour for the last month, forcing her to skip the Olympics, and seemingly making her as vulnerable as she's been in years heading to the U.S. Open, which starts Monday.

Don't be so sure about that last part, though. Asked how close she is to being all the way back, Williams said: "Probably about 90 percent right now, maybe 95.'

"I've been able to prepare a lot. Once I realized I wasn't going to the Olympics, I've just been in the gym every day, twice a day. And then, finally, I've been spending some time on the court," she said in an interview Friday.

"It was a lot of work that I didn't necessarily want to do, but I had to do it because I wanted to be here. So

Williams wasn't able to defend her 2002 U.S. Open title; the Aug. 1, 2003, operation prevented that.

She returned to action in March at Key Biscayne, Fla., winning her first tournament—her only title in the past 12 months. Her older sister Venus missed six months with an abdominal strain, then was hampered this season by other injuries.

Serena hasn't won a major in 14 months, Venus in three years.

"They've always been capable of turning it on. In this situation, it is a little bit different because when you've had injuries, and you're out for so long, the other players are not afraid of you. Their games are improving and they keep moving on," U.S. Fed Cup captain Zina Garrison said.

"Right now, it's gotten to the point the other players are not afraid of them. They don't have that dominance that they had before."

That might be true, but as Serena put it Friday after a 10-minute promotional

appearance at Niketown, showing off bootlike sneakers she might wear to warm up on court at the Open: "I don't see anyone saying, 'Oh, I play Serena Williams! Yes!"

The pleasure of facing Serena in the first round Monday night at Arthur Ashe Stadium goes to Sandra Kleinova of the Czech Republic, who's ranked 83rd and carries a 7-22 record in 2004.

Serena is 28-5 this season; her ranking fell out of the top 10. Not quite up to the unbelievable standards she set while reaching No. 1 in the rankings and winning six Grand Slam titles, including four straight.

She's 24-2 at the Open since 1999, including two titles. The only losses: to Lindsay Davenport in the 2000 quarterfinals, and to Venus in the 2001 final.

Her path at the Open could include a quarterfinal against another former No. 1, Jennifer Capriati. When they played at that stage at the French Open, Capriati sent Serena to her earliest exit at a major in more than four years.

Record Olympic drug busts mark new era in doping battle



ATHENS, Greece (AP)— As soon as the little-known Belarusian sprinter crossed the finish line to win the AOHNA 2004 women's 100 meters, the cross-examination began.

How did you improve your times so dramatically? What are your training methods?

Yuliya Nesterenko had never run under 11 seconds before the Olympics, but did it in all four rounds here-including a career best 10.93 in the final.

Minutes later, the line of reporters' questions at her post-race news conference alluded to suspicions of drug use. Nesterenko patiently replied that her sudden success simply came down to hard work. Then she passed her postrace drug test.

Such is the climate shadowing virtually every medalist's performance in Athens—and not without some iustification.

A record 20 athletes have been thrown out of the Athens Games for doping violations so far, including Russian 400-meter runner Anton Galkin on Friday. More expulsions are likely over the final weekend: a Hungarian silver medalist in weightlifting was the latest to fail a test and come under suspicion.

Dozens more athletes were weeded out before the games even started; others stayed home for fear of being exposed.

The parade of disgraced competitors has left fans, journalists and fellow athletes wondering if they can believe what they see in Athens, especially in the wake of the BALCO steroid scandal in the United States.

But the atmosphere of doubt comes amid the most aggressive anti-doping effort in Olympic history. For decades, drug cheats were way ahead of the Olympic drug testers: Not anymore.

Olympic officials and doping experts say these games signal a watershed, brought on by a "zero tolerance" resolve within the International Olympic Committee, increased testing and targeting of suspected "dirty" athletes.

"In terms of drawing a line in the sand, we've done that here in Athens," World Anti-Doping Agency chief Dick Pound said. "If we catch you, you're gone. If we can't catch you now, we'll get you later and you're gone."

Already gone: 11 weightlifters, a Kenyan boxer, a Russian shot-putter, an Uzbeki shot-putter, a Belarusian high jumper, a Hungarian discus thrower and a Ukranian rower, among others. Two gold medals and two bronze medals have been stripped.

"Each positive test is a blessing for us because it's eliminating the cheats and protecting the clean athletes," IOC president Jacques Rogge said Friday. "The more we find, the better."

When Greek sprint stars Kostas Kenteris and Katerina Thanou pulled out of the games following a scandal over missed drug tests and a suspicious motorcycle crash, IOC spokeswoman Giselle Davies held up their Olympic IDs for photographers and TV cameras like a trophy.

There were 11 doping cases in Sydney four years ago; the record was 12 in Los Angeles in 1984. There were five in Barcelona in 1992 and two in Atlanta in 1996.

"There is more aggressive testing and more aggressive enforcement than we've ever seen before," said John Hoberman, an American author and doping expert. "There has been a sea change in the determination of anti-doping officials compared to the temporizing and negligent approach of the past."

He attributed the shift to Rogge's election as IOC president in 2001, succeeding Juan Antonio Samaranch, and the high-profile crackdown by Pound's anti-doping agency.

Around 3,000 tests are being conducted in Athens, a 25 percent increase over Sydney.

None of the doping cases here has involved athletes from affluent, Western countries. Officials say the richer nations have more effective national antidoping programs that catch athletes at home or act as deterrents.

The banned substances detected in Athens are drugs that go back decades, including stanozolol, the steroid that cost Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson his 100-meter gold in 1988.

"It seems to me people are using traditional anabolic steroids because they are still the most efficient doping substances," IOC medical commission

69 139

70

67

T38 Bart Bryant

chairman Arne Ljungqvist said. "I think it's a myth that there are many magic, undetectable substances around. THG was a special case."

THG is the previously undetectable steroid at the heart of the BALCO case, which has led to criminal charges against four men for allegedly providing drugs to elite athletes. Five top track athletes have been suspended for THG use. Sprinter Marion Jones is under investigation in the BALCO case, but has not been charged and denies ever using banned drugs

The IOC is testing for THG and the blood-boosting hormone EPO in Athens, and has indicated it may be screening for human growth hormone, or hGH, for the first time. Samples can be stored and tested later.

Meantime, the IOC is hunting down suspected cheaters, based on anonymous tip-offs and intelligence provided by doping control officials. But a side effect of their success is raised eyebrows every time someone runs faster, jumps farther or lifts more than expected.

Case in point: Greek 400-meter hurdler Fani Halkia broke the Olympic record in the semifinals and then won by a huge margin in Wednesday's final, improving her time by nearly four seconds in the last year.

American hurdler Brenda Taylor, who finished seventh, was asked whether she was surprised at Halkia's performances.

"Can I take the fifth on that question?" she said. "Yeah, she sure did come out of nowhere."

CINCINNATI REDS-Signed LHP Phil Vali-

quette and assigned him to Gulf Coast

MONTREAL EXPOS-Purchased the contract

of SS Maicer Izturis from Edmonton of the

PCL. Optioned OF Ron Calloway to Edmon-

ton. Moved 2B Jose Vidro from the 30-day to

NEW YORK METS-Traded RHP Dan

Wheeler to Houston for OF Adam Seuss. As-

signed Seuss to St. Lucie of the Florida State

SAN DIEGO PADRES-Extended a player

development agreement with Portland of the

BOSTON CELTICS-Signed F Justin Reed.

ford strength and conditioning coach.

MIAMI HEAT-Signed F Matt Freiie

winkel west coast advance scout.

Brock Williams on waived-injured.

CHARLOTTE BOBCATS-Named Chris Mun-

NEW JERSEY NETS-Named Bill Cartwright

NEW YORK KNICKS-Signed G Jamison

PHILADELPHIA 76ERS-Named Dave Boll-

CHICAGO BEARS-Placed LB Derrick Ballard

and DT Charles Hill on waivers, TE Robert

Johnson on waived-failed physical and DB

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS-Signed P Jesse

League. Signed RHP Alay Soler.

PCL through 2006.

assistant coach.

FOOTBALL

Nicassio.

NBA

Brewer

League Reds

OLYMPIC SCORES

OLYMPIC MEDAL TALLY

	_	_	_	
COUNTRY	G	S	В	Total
United States	29	34	27	90
Russia	17	23	29 13	69
China Australia	27 17	17 13	16	57 46
Germany	14	14	18	46
Japan	15	10	10	35
France	10	7	11	28
Italy	9	8	10	27
Great Britain	7	8	12	27
South Korea	8	10	8	26
Netherlands	4	9	8	21
Ukraine	8	4	7	19
Romania	8	5	5	18
Spain	3 7	10 7	5 3	18 17
Hungary Cuba	3	4	9	16
Greece	6	4	4	14
Belarus	2	3	8	13
Canada	3	5	3	11
Bulgaria	2	1	8	11
Poland	3	2	4	9
Czech Republic	1	3	4	8
Sweden	4	1	2	7
Brazil	2	3	2	7
Turkey	3 2	1 2	2	6 6
Ethiopia Slovakia	2	2	2	6
Thailand	2	0	4	6
Austria	1	4	1	6
Kenya	1	4	1	6
Denmark	1	0	5	6
Norway	4	0	1	5
New Zealand	3	2	0	5
Taiwan	2	2	1	5
Switzerland	1	1	3	5
Azerbaijan	1	0	4	5
Kazakhstan	0	2	3	5 4
Georgia Jamaica	2	1	1	4
South Africa	1	i	2	4
Indonesia	1	1	2	4
Egypt	1	0	3	4
Mexico	0	3	1	4
North Korea	0	3	1	4
Croatia	0	2	2	4
Slovenia	0	1 0	3 1	4 3
Chile Lithuania	1	2	0	3
Zimbabwe	1	1	1	3
Belgium	1	Ö	2	3
Uzbekistan	1	0	2	3
Latvia	0	3	0	3
Portugal	0	2	1	3
Estonia	0	1	2	3
Argentina	0	0	3	3
Iran	2 1	0 1	0	2 2
Morocco Bahamas	1	Ö	1	2
Israel	1	0	i	2
Finland	0	2	0	2
Colombia	0	0	2	2
Dominican Republic	1	0	0	1
Ireland	1	0	0	1
Cameroon	1	0	0	1
United Arab Emirates	1	0	0	1
India Hong Kong	0	1	0	1 1
Hong Kong Serbia and Montenegro	0	1	0	1
Mongolia	0	Ö	1	1
Syria	Ö	Ö	1	1
Trinidad and Tobago	Ö	Ö	1	1
Venezuela	0	0	1	1
Eritrea	0	0	1	1

MEN'S BASKETBALL Argentina 89, United States 81

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL Semifinals

United States 66, Russia 62 Australia 88, Brazil 75

Classification Czech Republic 79. Spain 68 Greece 87, New Zealand 83

MEN'S SOCCER **Bronze Medal** Italy 1, Iraq 0

MEN'S TEAM HANDBALL

Semifinals Germany 21, Russia 15 Classification Greece 29, South Korea 24

MEN'S WATER POLO

France 29, Spain 27

Semifinals

Hungary 7, Russia 5 Serbia-Montenegro 7, Greece 3 Classification United States 6, Australia 5 Italy 11, Croatia 7 Kazakhstan 15, Egypt 7

MEN'S FIELD HOCKEY Gold Medal

Australia 2, Netherlands 1, OT Bronze Medal Germany 4. Spain 3. OT Classification Pakistan 4, New Zealand 2 India 5, South Korea 2 Britain 1, South Africa 1, Britain won 4-3 on penalty strokes Argentina 4, Egypt 2

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division Pct. GB New York 80 48 .625 74 53 .583 **Boston** Tampa Bay .461 Baltimore 70 .449 53 76 .411 27102 **Central Division** 71 57 .555 Minnesota Cleveland 65 65 .500 Chicago 62 64 .492 8 Detroit 60 68 .469 Kansas City 45 81 .357 25 West Division

75 53 .586 Oakland 74 54 .578 1 Anaheim .567 2112 72 Texas 55 Seattle 80 .370 271 2 Yesterday's Games

N.Y. Yankees 8, Toronto 7 Cleveland 6, Chicago White Sox 3 Texas 6, Baltimore 4 Seattle 7, Kansas City 5 Anaheim 9, Minnesota 6 Oakland 8, Tampa Bay 7

NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division Atlanta 74 53

Boston 5, Detroit 3

Florida	64	62	.508	9102
Philadelphia	63	65	.492	11102
New York	60	67	.472	14
Montreal	55	73	.430	19102
Central Division				
St. Louis	84	44	.656	-
Chicago	71	57	.555	13
Houston	65	63	.508	19
Cincinnati	61	66	.480	22102
Pittsburgh	60	67	.472	23102
Milwaukee	55	71	.437	28
West Division				
Los Angeles	74	54	.578	_

71 59 .546 4

69 59 .539 5

40 89 .310 341 12

.430 19

T38 Craig Barlow

-4 F -1 73 66 139

55 73

.583

Yesterday's Games Houston 15, Chicago Cubs 7 Montreal 10. San Diego 3

San Francisco

San Diego

Colorado

Arizona

St. Louis 8. Pittsburgh 5 Philadelphia 6, Milwaukee 1 N.Y. Mets 9, Los Angeles 2 Arizona 4, Cincinnati 3, 11 innings Florida 3, Colorado 0 Atlanta 5, San Francisco 3

BUICK CHAMPIONSHIPS

P	Player Name	0		р.			Τ0
F/L		Scor Today	ing Thru	To Pa	unds ar 1	2	TS
T1	Fred Funk	-4	F	-8	66	66	132
T1	Zach Johnson *	-5	F	-8	67	65	132
3	Hank Kuehne	-5	F	-7	68	65	133
T4	Jose Coceres *	-4	F	-6	68	66	134
T4	Corey Pavin *	2	F	-6	62	72	134
T6	Bob Burns	Ē	F	-5	65	70	135
T6	Kirk Triplett *	-3	F	-5	68	67	135
T6	Esteban Toledo	-4	F	-5	69	66	135
T6	Tom Byrum *	-4	F	-5	69	66	135
T6	Joey Sindelar	-3	F	-5	68	67	135
T6	Robert Gamez *	-4	F	-5	69	66	135
T12	Scott Simpson *	-1	F	-4	67	69	136
T12	Matt Gogel *	-1	F	-4	67	69	136
T12	Jason Dufner	Ė	F	-4	66	70	136
T12	David Peoples *	Ē	F	-4	66	70	136
T12	Tom Pernice, Jr. *	-4	F	-4	70	66	136
T17	Jerry Kelly *	1	F	-3	66	71	137
T17	Brad Faxon *	-2	F	-3	69	68	137
T17	Bo Van Pelt *	-2	F	-3	69	68	137
T17	Hidemichi Tanaka *	-2 -1	F	-3	68	69	137
T17	Olin Browne	-2	F	-3	69	68	137
T17	Matt Weibring *	2	F	-3	65	72	137
T17	Ken Duke *	-1	F	-3 -3	68	69	137
T24	Tim Petrovic	E	F	-3 -2	68	70	138
T24	Joe Durant	-1	F	-2 -2	69	69	138
T24	Garrett Willis *	-4	F	-2 -2	72	66	138
T24	Tim Wilkinson	1	F	-2 -2	67	71	138
T24	Skip Kendall	1 -1	F	-2 -2	69	69	138
T24		-1 E	F	-2 -2	68	70	138
T24	Aaron Baddeley * Pat Perez *	-1	F	-2 -2	69	69	138
			F				
T24	Arron Oberholser	-1 -	F	-2 -2	69	69	138
T24 T24	Woody Austin *	E -3	F	-2 -2	68 71	70 67	138
	Brent Geiberger		-	-2 -2			
T24	Omar Uresti *	E	F F		68	70 71	138
T24	Tag Ridings	1	F	-2	67		138
T24	Jason Bohn *	-3	-	-2	71	67	138
T24	Hunter Mahan	-3	F	-2	71	67	138
T38	Mike Heinen	-1	F	-1	70	69	139
T38	Tim Herron	-1	F	-1	70	69	139
T38	Billy Mayfair *	1	F	-1	68	71	139
T38	Kevin Na	-3	F	-1	72	67	139
T38	Daniel Chopra	-2	F	-1	71	68	139
T38	Aaron Barber *	-1	F	-1	70	69	139
T38	Chris Nallen	E	F	-1	69	70	139
T38	Roland Thatcher *	-1	F	-1	70	69	139
T38	John Senden	Е	F	-1	69	70	139

T38 Loren Roberts -1 72 139 T38 Jonathan Byrd * -1 72 67 139 T38 Robert Damron 71 68 139 T38 Craig Bowden 66 73 139 T38 Ted Purdy * 73 T38 Jay Williamson T38 Billy Andrade * 70 69 139 T57 Kevin Sutherland * Ε 70 70 140 T57 Craig Perks 69 71 140 T57 Vaughn Taylor * Ε 71 69 140 T57 Cameron Beckman -1 Ε 71 69 140 T57 Todd Fischer Ε 71 69 140 T57 Brian Harman * 73 67 140 T57 Ariun Atwal Ε 68 72 140 T57 Pat Bates 70 70 140 68 140 T57 Hirofumi Miyase 72 T66 Michael Allen 72 141 70 T66 Heath Slocum 71 141 T66 J.L. Lewis 3 71 70 141 T66 Frank Lickliter II * 73 68 141 T66 Jeff Sluman 72 69 141 T66 J.J. Henry T66 Patrick Sheehan * 70 71 141 T66 Justin Rose * 70 141 T66 Brian Kortan * T66 Steve Pate 71 T66 Scott Hend 70 141 T66 Ryan Palmer 68 68 T66 Russ Cochran T66 Deane Pappas

Jason Grilli.

CLEVELAND INDIANS-Recalled RHP Jeremy Signed LHP Jermey Sowers.

him to Tacoma of the PCL.

TEXAS RANGERS-Designated RHP Scott Erickson for assignment. Recalled RHP John Wasdin from Oklahoma of the PCL. ATLANTA BRAVES-Removed LHP Armando

Almanza and LHP Sam McConnell from the 40-man roster.

Eric Patterson.

73 141 70 141 73 141 68 73 141 **SPORTS TRANSACTIONS** CHICAGO WHITE SOX-Optioned LHP Josh

Stewart to Triple-A Charlotte. Called up RHP

Guthrie from Akron of the Eastern League and RHP Kazuhito Tadano from Buffalo of the IL. Optioned RHP Fernando Cabrera to Buffalo. Designated RHP Chad Durbin for assignment. Extended player development contracts with Akron, through 2008, and Mahoning Valley of the New York-Penn League, through 2006.

SEATTLE MARINERS-Claimed RHP Brett Evert off waivers from Atlanta and optioned

CHICAGO CUBS-Agreed to terms with INF

COLLEGE BIRMINGHAM-SOUTHERN-Named Lori Strand men's and women's assistant cross country coach. JAMES MADISON-Named Mike Dixon assistant wrestling coach. MOUNT ST. VINCENT-Announced the resignation of Jennifer Sullivan, women's

volleyball coach. ST. JOHN'S-Announced C Mohamed Diakite and F-C Lamont Hamilton have been rein-

stated to the men's basketball team. SAMFORD-Named Mick Fieldbinder and Tony David assistant baseball coaches. SOUTH CAROLINA-AIKEN-Named Shannon

Reid women's assistant basketball coach. SUNY NEW PALTZ-Named Greg Sautner and Steve Axelson cross country coaches and Greg Gornick sports information intern. WOOSTER-Named Lori Shulman women's tennis coach.

By The Associated Press

SAIPAN TRIBUNE SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2004 **27**

The Week in Sports

Sports screech to a halt due to Chaba



line of the SIS fun run, placing second with a time of 20:05.

> Gabriel Race, right, and Danny Arthur pose for a photo after claiming first place in the 4th Saipan International School 5K Fun Run. The two won their 6and-under age group divisions, which featured a shorter course.

> The Francisco Palacios baseball field was left in ruins after Supertyphoon Chaba passed through the Marianas. The facility sustained damage to its fence, as well as it lights and

The father-daughter tandem of Robin Sapong, right, and Reylene Sapong also did well in the SIS run, with Reylene taking first place in the girl's 10-12 category and Robin finishing in the Top 10 and placing second in his age group.

and BRAD RUSZALA REPORTERS

> knock out punch courtesy of Supertyphoon Chaba. Chaba, which terrorized the Marianas last Sunday with winds of up to 180mph, left many sports organizations without a venue for play.

ocal sports ceased due to a

Photos and text by SHAN SEMAN

The Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, for example, was home to three ongoing cage leagues—2004 UFO-San Miguel Cup, Inter Restaurant Basketball League, and the Saipan Rotary Summer Youth Basketball League.

Both the UFO and IRBL were both heading towards their semifinals stage when interfered by the untimely weather.

Due to Chaba's wrath, hundreds of people were displaced from their homes, many of whom would now be sheltered at the Ada facility.

Also sustaining damage were the Francisco Palacios baseball field, the Oleai Sports Complex softball field, and the Dandan softball field-home of the Belau Softball League.

The Saipan Fisherman Association also postponed its prestigious fishing derby, originally scheduled to begin

yesterday, and rescheduled the event for Sept. 11-12.

Also, the Northern Mariana Islands Track and Field Federation postponed its All Schools 1st fall Island Relay scheduled for yesterday.

The week was not entirely out of sports as several NMI ambassadors competed in off island events.

Tim Quan placed eighth in the 2004 ITF Pacific Oceania Junior Tennis Championships in Lautoka, Fiji, and thus, qualified to compete in both singles and doubles competition of the Air Pacific Oceania Closed Junior Tennis Championships.

Also, the CNMI Little League All Stars took on the best of international competition at the Little League World Series in South Williamsport, Pennsylvania, and despite dropping all three of their games, had much to be proud of as they fought hard in each and lost by only small margins.

On island, over 150 early birds took Marpi by storm, participating in the 4th Annual Saipan International School 5K Fun Run.

Top finishers include Dirk Sharer, Russ Quinn, Jack Kabiriel, Melissa Coleman, Suzanne Kindel, Teanna Stevesen, Vicki Taitano, Reylene Sapong, Gabriel Race, and Danny Arthur among others.



Mario Sablan, Joey Dela Cruz, and JJ Taitano of the Sports and Recreation division lay down tarps over the surface of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium in preparation of the coming evacuees to the facility.



leaning and damaging the fence at the Oleai Sports Complex.

Even the bleachers at the Francisco Palacios ball field were out of place after Chaba's winds terrorized the Marianas last weekend.



Funk, Johnson lead **Buick Championship**

Fred Funk has his confidence back. The 48year-old Funk, preparing for his first Ryder Cup appearance, shot his second straight 4-under 66 on Friday for a share of the lead with rookie Zach Johnson after the second round of the Buick Championship.



Sports screech to a halt due to Chaba

Local sports ceased due to a knock out punch courtesy of Supertyphoon Chaba.

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Bad day for gold-medal favorites at the Olympics

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he favorites faltered Friday at the Olympics, with Marion Jones and Paula Radcliffe both leaving the Athens Games empty-handed and the United States men's basketball team crashing out of gold-medal contention.

Argentina, which was the first team that defeated an American squad with an NBA roster two years ago at the world championships, upset the defending champions 89-80 in the semifinals. The best the Americans can now do is a bronze medal.

NBA star Manu Ginobili led the way with 29 points for Argentina, which will face Italy in final on Saturday. The Italians upset Lithuania 100-91.

Jones, who won five medals in Sydney four years ago, was twice denied Friday, finishing

fifth in the long jump and missing out on the 4x100 relay. She was unable to make the handoff to 100-meter silver medalist Lauryn Williams midway through the race, leaving Williams grasping at air while Jones reached desperately for her teammate.

Jones is under investigation by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, but she has repeatedly denied using performanceenhancing substances.

Jamaica won the gold in 41.73 seconds, followed by Russia and France.

Radcliffe, the fastest woman this year over 10,000 meters, dropped out of the race with 8 1/2 laps left. She also failed to finish the marathon one week ago.

Xing Huina of China won the 10,000 in 30:24.36, the second fastest time this year, to give her country another track gold. Earlier, Liu Xiang of China equaled the world record to win the 110-meter hurdles in 12.91.

Other athletics winners include Tim Mack of the United States, who cleared

an Olympic-record 5.95 meters on his final pole vault; Osleidys Menendez of Cuba, who set an Olympic record to win the javelin with a throw of 71.53; and Tatyana Lebedeva, who led a Russian sweep in the long jump with a leap of 7.07.

In the morning, Robert Korzeniowski of Poland increased his record collection of gold medals with an unprecedented third consecutive Olympic victory in the 50-kilometer walk.

Korzeniowski, 36, has won four Olympic golds—the last three in the 50-kilometer walk and the 20kilometer event in Sydney four years ago. No other walker has won more than one gold medal.

> It was the final medal for the Pole, who has announced his retirement after the Olympics.

> Iraq was never considered to be a favorite to win a medal in men's soccer, but many were rooting for the underdog against

Italy. But Alberto Gilardino scored his fourth goal of the tournament to lead the Italians to a 1-0 victory.

In men's field hockey, the Australian men won gold by defeating two-time defending champion Netherlands 2-1 in extra time. Australia has now won 17 gold medals at these games, beating its previous best ever gold medal tally of 16 it earned as host in Sydney four years ago.

The women's basketball final will be a rematch of Sydney 2000-Australia vs. United States.

The U.S team, seeking its third consecutive Olympic title, edged Russia 66-62, thanks to Sheryl Swoopes' three big plays at the end. Lauren Jackson led Australia with 26 points and 13 rebounds in an 88-75 semifinal victory over Brazil, who will play Russia for the bronze.

Gunn-Rita Dahle won Norway's first in cycling medal since 1972 in winning the women's mountain



United States' Marion Jones, right, and Lauryn Williams fail to connect on the baton handover leading to a disqualification in the 4 x 100 meter relay finals at the Olympic Stadium during the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens, Friday, Aug. 27, 2004.



Natasa Janics of Hungary paddles to victory in the Women's K1 500 meter final to take the gold medal, during the kayak flatwater event at the 2004 Olympic Games in Schinias near Athens, Greece, Saturday, Aug. 28, 2004.

bike—her 15th consecutive win.

German kayaker Birgit Fischer became the first woman to win Olympic medals 24 years apart, winning her eighth gold medal as part of the fourperson kayak 500-meter final.

She won her first gold aged 18 in Moscow, becoming the youngest women ever to win an Olympic kayaking event. Now 42, Fischer has 11 medals and could win her 12th in the pairs kayak final. Germany also won the men's 1,000-meter canoe doubles.

Norway picked up another gold when Eirik Veraas Larsen won the 1,000-meter kayak, while Sweden won the 1,000-meter kayak doubles and Spaniard David Cal won the 1,000-meter canoe.

OLYMPIC MEDAL TALLY

Country	G	S	В	Total	
United States	29	34	27	90	
Russia	17	23	29	69	
China	27	17	13	57	
Australia	17	13	16	46	
Germany	14	14	18	46	
See complete count on page 26					

Russia overcame a glitch in their music that forced them to start over to complete a sweep of the synchronized swimming golds with a team performance that received perfect 10s across the board in artistic impression. The Japanese took silver and the United States was third—a repeat of the results from duet.

In taekwondo, Iran's Hadi Saei Bonehkohal won the men's 68-kilogram division and South Korea's Jang Ji-won the women's 57-kilogram.

In show jumping, Ireland's Cian O'Connor knocked down a rail down in the first round with Waterford Crystal and was one of only two riders to jump clean in the second to win the gold medal.

Off the field, denials and protests played a part in the day's activities.

The first denial came from the IOC, which rejected South Korean requests for the awarding of a duplicate gold medal to gymnast Yang Tae-young due to a judging mistake in the men's allaround that gave the gold to American Paul Hamm. Yang, who should have won gold, got bronze.

The IOC also turned down an official German petition for duplicate gold medals following a judging error in the three-day equestrian competition, with president Jacques Rogge ruling out medals for "so-called humanitarian or emotional reasons."

Another denial involved Kostas Kenteris, the surprise 200-meter gold medalist in 2000 who withdrew from the Athens Games after missing a doping test. Speaking via telephone to private TV channel Mytilini, Kenteris repeated his claim he did nothing wrong and has vowed to return to the track.

Protests continued to trouble gymnastics, with FIG denying an American protest over Mary Sanders' hoop score in the first day of rhythmic qualifying. Sanders' technical score—the measure of difficulty-that was lower than almost anyone in the field and lower than she'd ever scored in competition.



Argentina's Fabricio Oberto, right, is lifted by teammate Luis Scola after a 89-81 defeat of the USA in their semi-final game at the Olympic Indoor Hall during the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece on Friday, Aug. 27, 2004. USA players from left: Tim Duncan, Lebron James and Carmelo Anthony.